

Scale How,

December 18th 1903

Yes, I know you were hustled and could not write. I too have been very busy indeed. The end of the year is always a very busy time and rather exhaustint but I have kept very well. I am delighting in your Swiss prospect. I have been studying pictures in the Daily Graphic of alpine sports and see you Sh ing. I was very much disappointed not to be able to get off the statements re associates and schools. They were crowded out by things that could not be put off. It is rather sad because we begin so many books after Christmas that this is a good time for schools to join, but really there is no hurry What we want is to get the principle accepted the rest may well ve a work of time. How just splendid and precious is my Chela Thank God for her. She had had that whisper in her ear, but the need for her to do something appears in this that not two or three or even the Executive have made the intellectual effort necessary to understand what we are about and neither you nor I should be willing to spend our day in arranging pleasant lectures for more or less interested audiences. We want to do something which will really influence education. Tell me about the Bedales play. Dearest love,
Ever yours,
Glad the children like Goblin Market.

DICTATED.

Ambleside,

8. 2. 1904.

Dearest,

Here is goodness and virtue! A long synopsis of our teaching - copies of which I have sent to Miss Armfield for each member of the Committee! That is what your last letter has produced.

Now you will have a foundation for any p
talking or writing you may have to do.

You can easily tell people that I am in treaty with the publishers to produce the 5 or 6 volumes which contain "us" at 3/6 each. I have tried for 2/6 but they decline, anyway 3/6 does not come to much more than 2/6 net. But people must have their own books.

I sent you the suggestions for work in my former letter but merely that you may depart from them. I think it much better that the Committee should organise. My own belief is that we shall find the Union very ready to respond and that a good many members will become associates. That is, persons who really know what they progress. I suppose you would accept persons who have got the H.E.C. Certificate without further study. There are only 2 or 3 of them. Ought we to have an Associates' Badge? That would be rather nice. But all such things will suggest themselves to you, i.e. the Committee!

Much love,
C.M.

House of Education

12.2. 1904

Dear Mrs. Franklin,

The Parents Education Union was formed in the first place to carry out the teaching contained in "Home Education". The pages of the Parents Review and the general lectures given in the branches (where teaching not antagonistic to what we call P.N.E.U. thought is welcomed) carry out the intention of (n) in the objects, that is to collect and make known the best information on the subject. Lady Isabel Margesson and some other members of the Committee left us in June 1894 because we could not receive their amendment pledging us to the "new" education as it is set Pestalozzi, Herbert Spencer, Froebel and other educational philosophers.

As a matter of fact, the P.N.E.U. is designed as a tacit protest against the fundamental principles of the philosophers, but this is a subject I have dwelt on at length in several connections. It is quite true that at the date of the rupture, I protested against the use of names and definitions. I have tried for years to hide behind the phrase P.N.E.U. though, but we ~~try~~ make little headway as an educational power in the country and we lay ourselves open to the charge brought against us by the malcontents of '94 that absolutely vagueness is to prevail about the best principles and methods of education as understood by the Union

As people grow in earnest about education, they will either neglect us as amateurs, or require to know what our platform is. So it seems to me well to draw even an inadequate statement of what we teach and also it seems necessary that this teaching must be protected by the name of the originator, or everyone who speaks for P.N.E.U. has a right to say, "I think" and call it, "P.N.E.U. Teaching" and this must result in the "absolute vagueness" we deprecate.

But this statement is no new thing. The Society originated in the little manual called "Home Education" which contains the whole in the germ and every succeeding expansion and elucidation has appeared in the Parents Review and has for the most part been read at the Annual Conferences of the Union.

Ever yours,

C.M. MASON.

1
DICTATED

Ambleside,

12.2.1904

Dearest,

What news do you get from the Babes? I am ever so glad you like the Statement. Yes, I know there will be tiresome work on hand re.statement but I am less anxious to carry the point than that each Member of the Committee should feel that there is a "yea" or "nay" to be said. It is drifting which I think is so damaging; that is why I sent the "St." to each member. Besides it would be irregular to communicate a thing like this through you or anyone member and simply impossible for even Lady A. to give it intoto. But I never thought of different hours of arrival at the Office and at 50 Porchester (errace): I counted on the telephone. (Note by Miss Kitching: "both were posted at the same time").

I daresay this, too, will have to wait for "Posterity"(!) but it's well to have sown a little seed.

The question you raise is important so I shall write you a formal letter about it. I believe that work on the "St." will be really useful whether we succeed at first or not so I know your courage won't fail!

Chapter and verse - NO, best of Friends! - because it is all in the nature of line upon line, Precept upon Precept - every bit I think in Home Education, but unfolded and unfolded until the last pamphlet - but what I am doing is to make
/a.....

careful table and contents which shall guide people in their studies, that is - if anybody does study.

Re. Schools: I fear they are hide-bound. I sent the papers and regulations to Miss Body and the Welsh lady who seemed really in earnest, asking that they should be returned if they were not adopted. The Welsh lady returns without a word! Miss Body has kept them and said nothing. Manners, you know, are at a premium!

The books frighten the dear people and I daresay they think I have an axe to grind. But truly I have not. The School is as full as we can easily manage and if we wanted more, why an advertisement in the Queen or the Guardian, for example, would bring us shoals of families.

However I am sending you the letters, the prospectus (shewing fees, etc.) and if you came to have the matter worked through the Office, do so.

I think though in that case, the Office should have a fee of 10/- on every school admitted, besides the Annual Membership fee.

Alas, the paper we drew up seems to be lost but I think I have embodied it in the prospectus,

Dear love,

G.H.

I hope the schools admitted have paid their fees to Miss Armfield if not she should apply for them: Miss Peild Hall, High Cliff
Barnborough and Miss Berridge of Hornsea.

18. 2. 1904

Dearest,

What a splendid Chela you are. I feel now that we are on our feet and ready to make progress in two directions. Schools will prove like a snowball, rolling down hill and by show degrees, and more and more we shall influence the education of the country. Hurrah as you sapiently observe. How I wish I shd been there to hear that half hour's harangue, it is most sweet of the committee to pass such a delightful resolution ^{congratulate} re statement. I ~~congratulate~~ you on a splendid piece of work, dear dear, I think it will live longer than - as I said before - even you. I am very glad Mr. Underhill has come in bodily, we can recommend him now without reserve.

Please give my lougagg and gratef l thanks to Lady A. as helmsman. She is ever a joy,

No more till I hear,

Yours C.M.

House of Education

21 3. 1904

Dearest,

Thank you for your dear note. The publishers print the circulars and will no doubt let you have 3,000 would you like the leaflet to go into the "Review" as well. I fancy 3,000 should cover all, should it not? But just as you like. I shall take Mrs. Clement Parsons' judgment. No indeed, we don't want to be erudite. You dear people are too sweet, and just make me cry. But truly I do not see all that in the little leaflet. I am very truly glad Mrs. C.P. sees development of course P.N.E.U. is educating me but I thought I had gone back in style since "Home Education." I do nothing but bask in the great happiness of feeling that now we have begun a work which will go on.

Your (in the plural) acceptance of the "confession" alter the footing of everything. The College, the School, my soul and body are identified with P.N.E.U. and there is no shadow of separation and no holding back of college of anything else with a view to what some future committee that has no Lady A. may.....

Dictated

Ambleside,

22. 3. 1904

I am very sorry to lose Lady A's vigorous preamble but understand your reasons for giving it up. I think^{you} have deleted the phrases I meant to alter, so I just send it back as it is. Perhaps you will let me see a proof in case anything occurs to me; I should return the proof to you.

I see you take the first phrase of my bit of the original so I suppose you mean just to continue.

I like all your "revised versions". 'Member' comes twice in the opening sentence does it not. Hip! Hip!

This labour of ours is nearly at an end and if the fruits come in only an apple at a time we shall rejoice.

(I am) terribly sorry about the nurse question: its most wearing

Ever thine,

C.M.

This is not a letter. Could I have two or three proofs because I expect I shall have a battle with the publishers about the questions and I don't at all think they know

we want the books but with this form they would see and I think would not object.

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D I C T A T E D

Ambleside,

22. 3. 1904

Dear Friend,

I had written, as you will see, a note in answer to yours but on re-reading, I fear I must ask you to let me have the whole, complete, to look at before it goes to the printers. So far as I can gather there is no mention of the Committee as the copy stands now. We must have some such phrase as you began with - "The Committee of the P.N.E.U. in consultation" etc." if the thing is to be printed.

You see, the whole object in view is that the Committee on behalf of the Union, should make a Confession of Faith. Of course there will be dissidents, even on the Committee, and certainly in the Union; but every body contains those who differ and there is no compulsion nor any pressure whatever. Nor is anything new advanced. The principles are those which as a Nursing Mother (May I say so?) as well as Founder of the Union, I have sustained it with from year to year, which contain all the vital truth it possesses and, so far as I can see, constitute its raison d'etre. But the dear Committee must not take and repudiate. If they have not the courage to send out the leaflet in their name I shall not even be distressed. A great gain has come to me in the shape of those members who, seeing the whole scheme of thought, in a bird's eye view, became the first adherents to the whole. /I....

am deeply grateful to them and value their enthusiasm more than I can say. It is a great thing when others see eye to eye with you about matters which are as your very life.

As for those who differ, I understand and respect their position. When there have not been a dozen original thinkers upon education in the world; when England has hardly had 3 or 4 - how can the P.N.E.U. believe that one of these has fallen to its share?

Indeed I can hardly believe it myself and am continually comparing and enquiring to see if I am after all offering anything worth while. The answer always seems to be "yes" but I am truly willing to leave the question to the "modesty of time."

At the same time, it will be a joyful and delightful thing to see the P.N.E.U. such an educational society as the world has never known; and there really is, I think, something to be said in favour of a person of even average intelligence who has given about 40 years of incessant consecutive, progressive, thought to the one subject of Education and who has tested every point laid down by many experiments and much investigation of principles. You will, I know see with me that there is no object whatever in issuing this leaflet unless as sent out by the Committee. Of course it must not be printed otherwise.

With again very cordial and grateful regards
towards part of the Committee if not the whole C. H. MASON

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S Y N O P S I S

Shap Wells Hotel

April 7th 1903.

Dearest,

Very loving birthday greetings to my beloved friend.

I should have been wicked enough to woo you to come here for your birthday only the weather has been so impossible. A continuous high gale ever since we came here but it gives the chance of quiet work and that is a great thing just now. My thoughts are much with you. Is the whole family at South Stoneham I am afraid you are very tired, but we both have a right to be tired for we have got a great thing out of hand. I have been in a state of nervous overstraining (though very well) since that day last February, was it not when you took me out of the slough of despond and set the ideas in motion that have resulted in the school register and the synopsis. I want you to realise by way of a birthday gift how far the whole thing is due to your stimulating sympathy, even more than to your efforts. God bless you, sweet friend, for all you have done for our great cause. Your oneness with me in it all is simply a vital thing to me, and now it is all done. The circular is simply splendid so neat and complete a thing had not entered my thoughts, and of course it obviates all further questions for ever re committee and so on. How clever you are. I had thought only of separate slips, and here it is all done. A truly great possession for us, an historical fact in education,

I think. Nice good children used to be allowed on their birthdays to make presents, and so the circular comes as your birthday gift to me. I am sending you, Lord Acton, really light literature (to hold). Is it really very bad of me to have cut it before sneding it? But I know you will like me to have enjoyed it. I think you will delight in his balanced judgment. We have no flowers, dear, and you have there. So once, more dearest, love and joy in the days that gave you to us. Do tell me some family news. No nurse yet?

Ever your loving,

C. M.

I enclose the K.P. circular (uncorrected) and have entreated them to send 3,000 to the Office as soon as the printers send them. The 2,000 for the P.R. would do later. I send corrections for circular to you as Miss A. wouldnot know how to deal with them without consulting you.

Amblælie

10. 6. 1904

Is there any of you left dearest? You just take away my breath! I am truly vexed that I did not remember till too late to send flowers for your luncheon. Miss Armfield writes that the whole was a great success - but how you worked! It is good to think of a minutes pause for tea in the garden with Lady Campbell and Archie.

This is just a line to wish you God-speed dear, may all go well with you at Berlin. Perhaps I may get a little screech writ in the railway carriage.

About me - I did more at our garden party than I have been up to for years - and without more fatigue than I have now got over. You see the books are urgent - it is not quite safe to have sent the Synopsis abroad without them.

I am excessively glad (that) you are going to hold (a) Course of lectures in (the) Synopsis. You know there is and never can be but one Chela - who understands perfectly - and is faithful, i.e. does not stick in bits like a caddis worm.

Dearest love to that same Chela of my heart,

C.M.

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DICTATED

Bad Nauheim

27. 8. 1904

Dearest,

How ~~ad~~delightful it was to get your nice long letter at C.W. Hotel! We did quite well there but it was desolate not to have you in town. We had a really bad crossing - $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours longer than it should be but the dear tea basket made us all ~~right~~ right again when we got into the train at Ostend where we wait for about $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour before we start and so have tea in comfort. I did very well on the journey in the usual short stages and you know what an adept is Kit-Kit in all the arts of travel. The good Roschs made a great deal of us when we came and alas, said they had no room on the 2nd floor and we must go to the 3rd which I knew Little Man would not allow. However, they had already explained to him and when we got up, behold, two delightful rooms with a large balcony much better than our last at the same price. It is possible we may still be here long enough to see Sydney. I have not yet ventured a word about going as Little Man is still rather irate about pump - thinks should have come before; but so soon as he says "good" I shall moot the question of returning. Baths have begun again and what with baths and what with journey I am rather a poor thing but better.

Is it not humiliating to have had the grand Claphma plan defeated? Still I got some work done there, bad or good I can't yet say. Notwithstanding your counsel, dear,

Scale How, Ambleside,

Sunday 1904

Dearest,

Just a word of Good speed before you go -
 May you have such a very happy and refreshing time. The family group is quite ideal with so much to see which all 4 will delight in. I am very glad Cyril is encouragingly well. Let me have a p.c. about Michael. Now as always you have the comfort of B.P.'s precious care for you and yours. How nice to think Sydney goes to Casael to meet you. Stop at our very nice hotel and I hope you may see the dear little artist who copied Saskia (Hotel Konig Von Breussen: Artist Klinkerfuss)

I have been living in such a rush that I have not written but stored up things to say to you when you should come and now - alas this next year!

Fletcher, for example, it was very good of you to send it. I wanted much to see the book which I should have been very glad to introduce Form 111 if it had been done. The delightful preface made me cry Eureka! But alas, the writing is not of the graphic sort fit for girls and boys who want, not ~~other~~ people's thoughts, but the material of thought, events and persons vividly presented. But please don't mind my opinion: use it for O(live) if you think well. They will have Tales of a Grandfather the first term and afterwards for some time Froissart - Arnold Forster

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Rigg's Hotel
Wahlebury

1904 x 5

December 17th,

Here we are, dearest, after a month of various things especially jumpy I begin to feel myself again and am seized with a desire to write to you though Kit-Kit tells me she has sent a p.c. I am in great spirits because I was afraid I should have to go to Neuheim for a winter cure and now I am on my feet; but dearie, what are you doing to be tired again? I'm afraid that Spanish town meant too many hours in the train and too much going about. It's nice to think of a little rest in B.P.'s Eden. I hope she will be there.

Yes, your dear daughter has gone home with an absolutely unblemished page, but - that is negative praise, and it is positive and most positive that she deserves - a delightful person, most duty-doing, bright and amiable, full of interests and most intelligent about everything and most considerate. She is sweet! So don't tell me any more ever about your children being failures. This is what you have done! This is what you have sent me. All we have done is to give her room and work - So please, Ma'am do you also give her room - let her think her thoughts, say her says, read her books, without criticism to me or anyone. We all want room to live and that is what we want P.N.E.U. people to let their children have.

/We....

We had a little friendly talk in which ~~she~~ ^{he} was most frank. She is quite alive to the danger of drifting - had noticed that people who do, look discontented. She will tell you of the talk we had.

Now dearest - this is the problem that all active intelligent Mothers have to work out - how to make room for the grown up daughter^s, leaving life enough for her living - calling her to task about work done, but not about her feelings, failures, motives and all the sort of thing that is private! Set to work, then cleverest and dearest of women and achieve a great success! And then tell us how to do it. I wish for her sake she could teach sweet Michael - but he is due to Miss Saunders, otherwise we should be doing her an injury not to be thought of for a moment. Happily she is a quite first-rate teacher and will give Michael a splendid start.

Behold - Criticism kills friendship and M. had gone to you as your friend now - don't talk about her ever to me - people always know when that's done.

i74plcmc 393

House of Education,
Ambleside.

April 6th ? 1905

A word of Birthday greeting to my Beloved Friend. May the coming year bring her much by-product of the kind she is seeking after so that her friend here may be stimulated and helped to do (and think) better by more and more signs of "growth". She was very stimulating in her last visit to Ambleside. I feel as if you were like Mahomet's coffin - neither here nor there - neither at Porchester Terrace nor South Stensham. So this has to take its change of reaching you on the very day. You will see I can't keep you out of that birthday joy till October. So it comes now - you will find it very interesting reading I think - a sort of human document. A green pic-nic rug goes to keep it warm. I feel it in my bones that you are rather bothered about the conference. I enclose a letter from Mrs. Williams as I think you might like to get or try to get Mrs. Wordsworth/ to read her paper at the Conference. Do you know anything about the "Daily Mail" articles she speaks of? I don't. I am sending you copies. The Editor asked me some time ago to write an article on the Best Way to Bring up Children - but the title did not take me and I could not squeeze several volumes into one article. You know I don't like abridgments. He said he had been reading Vol.V. and gave a list of points from the book which he wanted me to take up. By the way, I have thought of someone one for your 3 weeks. Miss Moule (niece of the Bishop of Durham) I am told she is well enough to take

up work again and two nice little girls would be good to begin on. She is coming up to the Conference and if the lady wants her, we may be able to send her on. Travelling expenses and £1: 5: a week for the three weeks. We have been rather saddened by the illness of Mrs. Farrer, the charming chatelaines whom Miss Webb will remember. She has heart trouble and is afraid of the journey to Nauheim. I feel sad that I let her come up stairs to see me because I would not go there - and she looked distressingly ill. We are as comfortable as ever in these quarters and the people as kind but I have not enjoyed the driving as much as usual - the first part of the time I was too tired - and the last few days have been cold. I am inviting people to "meet" the old Students Conference for next Saturday - but I hear of very few old students who are coming,

There's a long screed all with my own hand for your birthday.

With ever most loving wishes, in which
Kit Kit joins,

Ever yours,

all
last
last 5 minutes

275plcmc393

House of Education

10.5. 1905.

Dearest,

The old students have been and gone and I think they found their conference very edifying and helpful. We all enjoyed them and I did not get more than tired.

How I wish you were here to see the beeches break into leaf. It is such a tender delicious green. I think you had better hurry the publishers up about the books. They will only be able to get them ready with a huge effort but it can be done. And now for your dear letter. I doubt if you will have time to read one from me you must be so busy; but I expect this will be a great Conference and certainly the programme is delightful. I am glad, too, that there is so good a prospect of papers for the Review. How is Geoffrey? You dear mothers are never safe from that kind of anxiety. I wonder has he been able to go to South Stoneham with you and if the visit did both you and the dear B.P. good.

Dear Michael! How improper of him to grow up!

It was dear of you to tell me about about the French home. You have been wonderfully fortunate to secure such a very attractive abode for you two with those two nice French girls for companions and the boys. I think you told me how you found them out but I forget I wonder is it a place we could send students to? Will you give Sydney my warmest congratulations on his success.

About the papers, I have sent you:- There is a good deal more in the book about Conscience. This is the whole of the paper

about Will and the paper follows about the Soul.

We shall do our best to send a good exhibit. Would it be better for Miss Smeeton to bring the things to your house and she could unpack and repack for Liege and the only expense would be the cab fare from Euston.

The students had what they called a Nation dance - very much like a book title affair. Don't you think it would lend itself to conversation if they appeared as nation things - that is for the most part with cards attached to their shoulders offering some sort of conundrum - you know the style of thing? I saw Mrs. Steinthal, she came on to Clapham for the day and was very dear. I think she will be heartily with us during the Conference. She appears to be staying in lodgings at Gower St. so I think persuasion will fetch her in a cab for the evenings. I have been storing an immense number of things to say to you but they appear to have gone. One is - thank you for sending me a capital student in Miss Dyke.

And now I must stop for there is much to be done.

All my thoughts are with you,

With dear love, C.M.

P.S. I am enclosing a letter from Miss Rankin; don't you think it would be rather nice for the Conference through the President to send a telegram to cheer these Melbourne people. The news seems very promising and interesting. Also I send a letter from Ceylon which might be interesting reading at the Conference. It is only about the school but such a letter from a Singalese lady opens the possibility of Branches for natives in certain places. Do you think it would be well for Miss Armfield to write to her about Branch work?

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House of Education
Ambleside

17th May, 1905.

I am glad you have written to me about Miss Smeeton, dearest, and I agreed with all you say - given the right person and she would be, not valuable, but invaluable to her. Mrs. Black, for example, with whom I have placed Miss Ethel Dixon, would have prized her beyond measure and would have paid anything. But such posts are very rare. People think they have refinement, personality (and much else which they have not got!) themselves, and they are only willing to pay for attainments with anything else you like thrown in. Miss Dixon is in just the same case or rather, the same ~~thn~~ a plus and a minus. But she will be with us till Easter and I have no doubt the right thing will turn up. I have thought a good deal about it and am rather inclined for a class for her - what think you? She would escape the strain of living with people and of having the children always on her mind. You look out also, dear, but don't be anxious and of this be very sure that no suitable post which Miss Smeeton can fill will be overlooked. I feel and have felt all you say about her age and risk (I should certainly have told you that training here is not a good investment for any student: the cost is great though I do all I can to keep it down; that is why I am cross when people expect the students to go to them for nothing!) I feel too, that Miss Smeeton in herself is worth more than the longest list of accomplishments, but I can't get people to see these things. But once again - don't be anxious dear - and be sure that the

matter is on both my mind and heart and that I am in entire agreement wit you.

All my soul is with you at the Conference.
That dear Kit Kit wrote me notes of yesterday: "Mrs. F. looked
wvery nice and she made just the right speech at the end of the
"morning."

Ever yours,

C.M.

House of Education

Amblaside.

25.5. 05.

Dearest,

Thank you for so quickly allaying my anxiety. I should have felt none for I am very well aware of a certain distressing failing and have been so for many years. But of the pamphlets you sent, while one was admirable (I mean to give it to the students before they go) another was very bad. You said nothing about Tuesday afternoon and I thought it just possible your silence might be ominous, but Dr. Hunter's paper entirely reassured me. Bury that letter which I should not have sent to you "in oblivion". To speak of it to any one will do harm and give the impression that we are mixed up with unpleasantness. I have just written to Mrs. S. and told her that we were fully safeguarded and that I liked and was grateful to the paper she condemned. I think she will not say more. Remember, dear, that one fault does not make a person and truly it is the only one I know. You know she is always a little sore and jealous hence she did not see clearly. I am much vexed about it.

About Mrs. Sandberg, I sent you her letter in order that a Branch might be duly organised from the office. Perhaps we shall get Belgium yet. I am writing to M. Thierry. Your book is coming also the list of people to send to,

Much love,

C.M.

*the
little family of human*

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Villa Langsdorf,

Bad Nauheim

20. 7. 1905

How good of the Beloved Person to write the very day before they started and what a nice budget of news. Did you hear me worrying because we had not your address, an behold it came promptly on desire.

Mrs. Thompson is here with her family and Kit Kit is managing so abominably well that I see very little of them. She went through rather a bad time on her return from Ober-Ammergau when the party went for a rest and she had determined to go home on her return but Professor Schott rose like a man in wrath and forbade further progress. He told me it was a serious case and required very careful watching. Evelyn is able to walk about now quite well but that is always a risky time, isn't it? Of the Cowlands we saw nothing except a card which was not a responsibility because they left a day or two later. We fall into our old tracks with a good deal of ease and satisfaction. I hope the new arrangement does not mean that Miss Smeaton can't go with you. I forget how soon the Morants wanted her. Nothing could possibly have been better by way of a beginning. After that, I incline to Miss Lees if the Lambas don't keep her; she is a delightful teacher and an exceedingly nice person and though I think London too trying for her, I fear she is bent upon trying her fortune there. I do wish the arrangement you suggested could be carried into effect. I think Fraulein Richter would be an element of repose and common

sense. However we must wait and see what happens. I am delighted about Mrs. Newington; it certainly seems to be an ideal thing on both sides. Perhaps we may manage something for her till Easter.

I enjoyed Olive's poem much. I see what you mean, it is less spontaneous than her earlier efforts; but that's a phase and the completeness with which she expresses the idea of the picture is delightful. I suppose you have Midge and Sydney; give them my love. Have you found the precisely right thing for her? We are writing out of doors watching black I wonder have S. and M. seen them.

Dear love to you and your dear party,

Kit Kit joins in love,

Yours ever,

C.M. (K.K.)

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J E W S

Villa Langsdorf
Bad Nauheim,

Dearest,

31.7. 1905

What a treat your nice long screed was! I was rather pining for news and now we can picture everything. I suppose the last three of your party have arrived by now. I wonder how S. and M. improved much in French? I am greatly entertained that Lady A. should have taken the Glasgow family ~~in~~ tow and have put them through an improving course; but it really was worth doing because people don't and even clever girls only prepare for examinations.

By the way, I hope the Renaissance people are all right to read aloud? You asked me but I could not recollect. I understand your difficulty about French novels. I am always brought up by something horrid. I think your Upton Letters man offers a rather good rule that things should not be written in a book which could not be painted in a picture or made a subject of conversation, and that reminds me of a very interesting conversation with Dr. Knittel which I meant to tell you of when we met. He said some deeply interesting things about the Jewish people, considered that they stimulated thought, intellectual activity of every kind and that they were absolutely necessary for the Education of Western Europe. Also that there was a great deal of difference between an intellectual Jewish and a fairly cultured German lady. That, if you go to the former and interest her sympathies for any public scheme, she will give you 100 marks towards it at once; when the German lady would give 5 though she would spend 25 marks (I thought he was

well within the mark!) on a hat. He said he thought there was only one thing in which a cultivated Jewess was not a help to German women: she would read books and go to plays that were very damaging to the German woman who imitated her. I was glad to tell him of at least one Jewish lady who was exceedingly delicate about such matters.

Was it not an interesting talk. His broad intelligent views interested me greatly, especially the idea that the Jewish people are for the education of the rest of us. Behold m'am Lady A is but fulfilling her mission after all! I think I must have Jewish blood, if I could tract it, or I should not be ~~xxx~~ so bent on bringing up the world ar large!!

Behold, I send you a dissertation instead of news, because we have non. Eveline Thompson is doing ever so well and I think they will be able to go in a week. Mrs. Thompson has been really most considerate in understanding that we must be left to ourselves, so we just have a pleasant little peep in passing them now and again. Mrs. Thompson is in everything, plays the organ in church, acts as Churchwarden and is secretary of the English Society and is generally most helpful, so I feel all our sins of omission are atoned for by her. I rejoice ever so that Miss Smeaton got her fortnight with you: I suppose she has gone by now. I am mending happily though the baths are always trying.

Very much love,
C.M. (E.K.)

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Villa Langsdorf
Bad Nauheim

21.8.1905

Dearest,

We are writing out of doors, taking almost a farewell look of the park, and by and by, of the delightful fields for we are to be allowed to go by the end of the week. Is it not grand? We shall have been here for only 6 weeks and we have never before had so short a cure. The little autocrat is mighty pleased with his patient. I told him that instead of coming here for my 90th birthday, which he had always said I should, I should go to a ball! This is Tuesday and we go on Friday and don't know where! The old place at Lucerne is in one scale and Drei Aehren in the Vosges another; he allows us to go to either and it is a question of pennies and weather which we decide upon. You ~~shall~~ have a p.c. when we know. What a dear and delightful time you are having! I think you must write an article on a P.M.E.U. notion of a holiday. Mrs. Winkworth and Mrs. Lamb do first ditto. They have been staying at Hamburg at what appears to be a sort of Sanatorium, chiefly to be dieted. They lie in the garden and read. Mrs. W. wishes to reduce her bulk and is greatly satisfied with the result. She is certainly much less stout than when I saw her last. Meat with hardly any vegetables, fruit or bread, appears to be the secret no butter - wherefore she enjoyed a morsel of butter at tea! They had read nearly all their books but as they were just going it does not matter.

I think Mrs. Lamb will be prepared to work for us in Elementary schools and we wanted that, did we not She is very enthusiastic. B.P.'s letter was a delightful compliment to yours and I feel it shabby to ask her to share this letter, but when she sees all its enclosures, she will understand that I have been working rather hard.

Her description of the two chatelaines is very telling; the one who serves her neighbours is certainly the attractive person. I was wondering what Mr. Franklin found to do now you tell me of the birthday expedition among the cathedrals: what a delightful time the trio will have.

So Madge is not to go to Germany I am rather sorry because it would have broken her in a little to community life, but see your point: a town life without air and exercise would not suit her. I am sorry Geoffrey is overdone; is it a touch of the old heart trouble, I wonder?

Yes, I wish P.N.K.U. would have let us both alone for these holidays and I hated plumping thunderbolts into the quiet of the dear friend's villagidun. I am enclosing a scrap that you might care to send to Mrs. Devonshire. Don't you think you should send her too for distribution, your Berlin address in German. We should communicate with one or two Belgian allies.
M. de Vuyst.

Miss Lees would be admirable for daily governess or there is the Miss Conder who was at Salisbury still free I

think; but she father wished to be placed in the north. W.P. wrote to me about Mrs.Ramsay. Could you suggest that we should send her a stop gap if we have not the right person in the middle of September and all she wants (many accomplishments) at Christmas? No, I think Miss Cox has not the necessary accomplishments but would do very well for a stop gap if she is free now. Perhaps Mrs. Blugden would also do with a stop gap. You see, nobody knows anything just now but when V.P. goes back in the middle of September, she will act. Here's a huge budget. I hope it won't tire you.

All the news from you is charming,
much love to B.P. from both of us and a great deal for your
dear self,

C.M.

Elsie Kit.